

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Tie-type~~ A tie-type security seal comprising a body of thermoplastic material [[(2)]] with a locking cavity in the form of a passage [[(7)]] through the body, a metallic insert element [[(11)]] fixed in said cavity and formed with at least one through-opening [[(15)]] aligned with said passage [[(7)]] and also a locking tooth [[(14)]], and an elongated strip of thermoplastic material [[(4)]] integral at one end with the body [[(2)]] and having another free end for insertion through said passage in a first direction where it is locked by said tooth [[(14)]] to prevent removal from the cavity in the opposite direction, the body and the strip having been manufactured by a plastic injection operation, ~~characterized by the fact that~~ wherein the metallic insert element [[(11)]] has been incorporated into said body of thermoplastic material [[(2)]] during the injection operation.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Security~~ The security seal according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the passage [[(7)]] that defines the cavity in the body [[(2)]] of the seal has a cross section substantially identical to that of the strip [[(4)]], at least in the greater part [[(5)]] of the length of the latter.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Security~~ The security seal according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the free end portion [[(9)]] of the strip [[(4)]] has a smaller cross section than the remaining part of the strip to facilitate the initial introduction through said passage [[(7)]].

4. (Currently amended) ~~Security~~ The security seal according to claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that wherein the metallic insert element is a substantially flat part [[(11)]] stamped with a main region [[(13)]] cut out in its ~~centre~~ center to define a plurality of teeth [[(14)]] bent outwardly from the plane of the part, defining an opening [[(15)]] between the ends of the teeth for passage of the strip [[(4)]], and, on each side and in the same plane as the ~~central~~ main region [[(13)]], a lateral extension [[(12)]] of which the end coincides with the side of said body.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Security~~ The security seal according to claim 4, characterized in that wherein said end of each lateral extension [[(12)]] of the metallic insert element has the form of a two-pronged fork.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Security~~ The security seal according to claim 4 [[or 5]], characterized in that wherein the end of each of said side extensions [[(12)]] is integral with a corresponding end of a side extension [[(12)]] of a metallic insert element [[(11)]] of another similar seal, and the seal [[(1)]] comprises one element in a "comb" of similar seals manufactured in the same injection operation, the individual seals being separable by breaking the junctions between the ends of the lateral extensions [[(12)]] of the metallic insert elements [[(11)]].

7. (New) The security seal according to claim 5, wherein the end of each of said side extensions is integral with a corresponding end of a side extension of a metallic insert element of another similar seal, and the seal comprises one element in a "comb" of similar seals manufactured in the same injection operation, the individual seals being separable by breaking the junctions between the ends of the lateral extensions of the metallic insert elements.